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PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 1011-57071-01
Application Number 09/919,650

Remarks

The Applicants thank Examiner Bonshock for calling to discuss the status of the referenced application.

The foregoing amendments make changes to the claims as discussed with the Examiner. To expedite prosecution, the Applicants have:

- 1) canceled claims 14, 20 and 31-35 without prejudice;
- 2) added language from claims 14 and 20 to claim 13;
- 3) added language to claims 27 and 69; and
- 4) amended claim 28 for the sake of consistency with amended claim 27.

The Applicants authorize Examiner Bonshock to make the foregoing changes by Examiner's amendment.

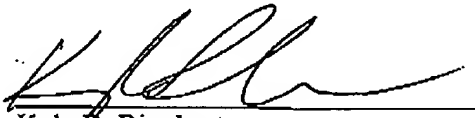
Examiner Bonshock also mentioned *potential* subject matter concerns under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for the expression "design tool." The Applicants believe the claims shown above satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 101. To expedite prosecution, however, the Applicants further authorize Examiner Bonshock to add the language "computer-implemented" immediately before the phrase "design tool" in each of claims 1, 11, 13, 25, 27, 30, 42, 43, 47, 51, 59, 61, 67 and 69.

Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21-30 and 42-71 should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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